

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-5, 7, 9-12, 14, and 16-23 are currently pending. Also, the Examiner has identified the following Allowable subject matter:

Claims 1 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph, as set forth in the Office Action.

Claims 4, 5, 13, 15, and 20 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph, as set forth in the Office Action, and to include all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 2, 3, 7, 9-11, 14, 16-19, and 21-23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims.

However, the Examiner has also identified the following claim rejections. Claims 1, 4, 5, 12, and 20 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner particularly has requested the providing of proper antecedent for ‘roof pitch’ in claims 1 and 12, the ‘top ones of said fastener holes’ in claim 1, the ‘bottommost one of said fastener holes’ in claims 1 and 4, as well as the ‘one of said fastener holes’ in claims 5 and 20, the ‘remaining ones of said fastener holes’ in claims 5 and 20, the ‘bottommost portion of each of the web members’ in claim 5, and the ‘taller one’ in claim 5. The applicants believe they have provided all the requested antecedent, as follows. In claims 1 and 12, “roof pitch angle” is now defined in the preamble of each claim. Also, “topmost”, “bottommost” and “intermediate” fastener holes are now defined in lines 25-27 of claims 1 and 12, with the term ‘top ones’ being replaced by “topmost” and “intermediate” replacing the term ‘remaining ones’ in claims 5 and 20. Further, the term ‘one of said fastener holes’ has been replaced by “said bottommost holes” in both claims

5 and 20. In addition, Claims 13 and 15 which contained the term “bottommost portion” have been cancelled or withdrawn. Also, the “taller one” was not found in any currently pending claim, but the term ‘taller end’ has now been defined in line 17 of claim 1 and line 18 of claim 12. Thus, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw her rejection of claims 1, 4, 5, 12, and 20 under 35 USC 112.

The applicants have made other amendments to their claims to provide proper antecedent and correct inconsistencies found in component identification. A listing of the current status of all claims has been provided with this response, with amendments thereto being identified by ‘underlining’ for added language and ‘strike-through’ markings for deleted text. The applicants believe that no new matter has been added by the changes to their claims proposed herein. Further, no substantive changes to their claims have been made, only those changes required by the Examiner to correct form and place their application in proper form for allowance. Thus, the applicants now request reconsideration by the Examiner and allowance of their currently pending claims 1-5, 7, 9-12, 14, and 16-23.